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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: WITTRISCH

Serial No.: 10/679,456

Filed: October 7, 2003

For: Controlled-Pressure Drop Liner

Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Stephenson, Daniel

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 5, 2006

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 5, 2005, in connection with the above-identified application.

Claims 1-3, 5 and 7-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by International Publication No. WO 02/31314 (to which the Examiner refers as "WIPO '314"). Applicant traverses this rejection and requests reconsideration thereof.

The present invention relates to a controlled-pressure drop liner device. As shown, by way of example only in Figure 1, the device includes a circumscribed filter element 9 centered on a base tube 1 by longitudinal braces 14 in relation to the axis of the tube (see Figures 3 and 4) and arranged according to the diameter of the tube so as to divide the annular space defined by the filter element and the tube into sectors delimited by the braces 14. Collecting tubes 5 are arranged and open into the sectors by one end. The collecting tubes 5 have another end operably